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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 06MOSCOW3335,

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#06MOSCOW3335**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
06MOSCOW3335	2006-03-31 09:06	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Moscow

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.novgaz.ru/data/2011/001/16.html>

```
VZCZCXRO8344
RR RUEHDBU
DE RUEHMO #3335/01 0900906
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 310906Z MAR 06
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3312
INFO RUCNCLIS/CIS COLLECTIVE
RUEHMD/MOSCOW POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 MOSCOW 003335

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/30/2016 TAGS: [PGOV](#) [ECON](#) [PINR](#) [RS](#)

REF: A. 05 MOSCOW 14734 B. MOSCOW 1082 C. MOSCOW 1434 D. 05 MOSCOW 15735 E. MOSCOW 3218 Classified By: Ambassador William J. Burns. Reasons: 1.

[1](#)1. (C) SUMMARY. In the months since President Putin's November 14 personnel reshuffle that moved Dmitriy Medvedev and Sergey Ivanov into succe

[1](#)2. (C) On November 14 Putin shook up the political scene with a major personnel reshuffle in the Presidential Administration (PA) and governme

PUTIN, MEDVEDEV AND SERGEY IVANOV -----

[1](#)3. (C) Most observers continue to see the November reshuffle as confirming Putin's commitment to step down at the end of his current term. In

[1](#)4. (C) Dmitriy Medvedev was initially seen as the big winner in the November reshuffle. By moving him from PA chief to First Deputy Prime Mini

[1](#)5. (C) Heading the national projects initiative offers MOSCOW 00003335 002 OF 004 Medvedev an opportunity to gain popularity, but it comes wit

[1](#)6. (C) Meanwhile, Medvedev must deal with political infighting with potential rivals. Venediktov told us how ill feelings arose in the Kremlin

[1](#)7. (C) In another example of infighting, reports surfaced that Boris Kovalchuk, the 28-year-old son of Putin insider Yuriy Kovalchuk, would be

[1](#)8. (C) In sum, observers agree that Medvedev faces a tough road ahead, despite being given an early chance to succeed. Potanin told the Ambass

[1](#)9. (C) Although many thought he was advanced only into a "fall-back" position, Sergey Ivanov also gained from the November reshuffle, which me

OTHER CONTENDERS -----

[1](#)10. (C) Given broad agreement that Medvedev and Sergey Ivanov could well falter, observers are also watching other potential contenders. Of 1e

[1](#)11. (C) We also have noted more talk recently about Sergey Sobyanin, the former Tyumen governor who was appointed to head the Presidential Adm

[1](#)12. (C) Sobyanin's impact on the byzantine politics and power balance inside the PA, and any resulting impact on the succession, remain uncles

[1](#)13. (C) Russian Railroads CEO Vladimir Yakunin, a close friend of Putin, has kept an extremely low profile but continues to be seen by many of

[1](#)14. (C) The candidates mentioned above do not necessarily exhaust the range of possibilities. Kryshtanovskya continues to predict that still ot

NEUTRALIZING THE OUTSIDE OPPOSITION -----

[1](#)15. (SBU) Even as the maneuvering among political insiders picks up steam, the Kremlin has made significant progress in recent months in neutr

[1](#)16. (C) At the same time, the Kremlin has been working on various fronts to counter the efforts of former PM Mikhail Kasyanov to mount a presi

COMMENT -----

[1](#)17. (C) The succession process is now fully underway, albeit in an early stage. The current focus remains on the two figures seen to have gair